

# Übersetzung der Dialoge

## Translations of the dialogues

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### Lesson 1

#### Who are you?

In the first lesson we repeat a technique that can help you when you are learning a foreign language. You are also introduced again to the main characters in this course.

Andreas Schäfer: He is studying journalism and works part-time at the Hotel Europa, where this course takes place.  
Ex: She is an imaginary figure.  
Frau Berger: She is the hotel manageress.  
Hanna: She works as a chambermaid at the hotel.  
Dr. Thürmann: He is a regular guest at the hotel.

In the first broadcast the characters from Part One of the course are introduced again in the form of a quiz. It refers back to scenes in Part One, with one exception: a woman is looking for a particular theatre, the Avanti Theatre.

Woman: Excuse me, please. Where is the Avanti Theatre?  
Man: The Avanti Theatre? The Avanti Theatre? Hm, I don't know.

### Lesson 2

#### What can I do for you?

The next three scenes take place at the reception desk at the Hotel Europa. In the first scene, a young man asks if he can use the telephone.

Man: Good morning. Is there a telephone here?  
Andreas: Yes, of course.  
Man: May I use the telephone?  
Andreas: Please do. The telephone is here. Here you are!  
Man: Thank you. (The man says the telephone number to himself as he dials.) Two – five – one – nine – zero – four. (The telephone rings, someone picks it up at the other end)  
Woman's voice: Becker.  
Man: Schmidt. Hello, Frau Becker.

In the second scene, Andreas tells a middle-aged lady how to get to the station.

Andreas: Hello.  
Elderly lady: Excuse me, can you help me?  
Andreas: Certainly.  
Elderly lady: You see, I'm a stranger to these parts.  
Andreas: And how can I help you?

Elderly lady: I'm loooking for the station.  
 Andreas: The station is quite close by.  
 Elderly lady: Thank goodness!  
 Andreas: It's very simple. You take the first on the right.  
 Elderly lady: (repeats) First on the right  
 Andreas: And then the second street...  
 Elderly lady: (repeats) The second street...  
 Andreas: on the right again.  
 Elderly lady: (repeats) Right again.  
 Ex: That's the first on the right, and then the second street on the right again.  
 Elderly lady: Thank you very much.  
 Ex: Don't mention it!

In the next scene, Ex is looking for friends ...

Ex: Excuse me, can you help me?  
 Andreas: Certainly, madam.  
 Ex: You see, I'm a stranger to these parts.  
 Andreas: What can I do for you?  
 Ex: I'm looking for – friends.  
 Andreas: I see. Take the first on the left, then the first left, then left again, and keep going straight ahead – straight ahead.

### **Lesson 3** **It is very central**

A couple are looking for a hotel room. Unfortunately the Hotel Europa is full. Andreas, the hotel porter, suggests phoning another hotel – the Karlshotel.

Andreas: Good evening.  
 Woman: Good evening. We're looking for a room.  
 Andreas: Oh – I'm very sorry, but we don't have any vacancies.  
 Man: Oh no! This is already the third hotel (we've tried).  
 Andreas: I'd be happy to ring the Karlshotel for you. It's very central.  
 Woman: I know. We've been there already. But it's too noisy.  
 Andreas: And how about the Hotel Quelle? Have you been there?  
 Woman: Yes. It's too expensive.  
 Man: You're always dissatisfied!  
 Ex: Dissatisfied, dissatisfied, dissatisfied ...  
 Andreas: Do be quiet!

As the couple do not accept either of the suggestions Andreas has made, Andreas offers to call a guest house.

Andreas: I can also ring a guest house, the Guest House König (King).  
 Woman: And what's it like?  
 Andreas: Very quiet. But it's not so central.  
 Man: It doesn't matter. Would you please call there?

Woman: Just a moment! How will we get there?  
 Andreas: I can order a taxi for you. And the number 40 bus goes there.  
 It stops quite close by.  
 Woman: That's fine.  
 Andreas: Then I'll call there now.

#### **Lesson 4** **Impossible!**

Andreas has finished work at the Hotel Europa and is about to go home. At that moment Frau Berger, the hotel manageress, walks in. She remarks that he doesn't look very pleased.

Frau Berger: Hello, Herr Schäfer.  
 Andreas: Good evening, Frau Berger,  
 Frau Berger: Well, are you having problems?  
 Andreas: No. Why?  
 Frau Berger: You don't exactly look pleased.  
 Andreas: Who? Me?  
 Frau Berger: Yes, you! Who else?  
 Ex: Not me!  
 Frau Berger: Well, ventriloquist, tell me what's going on.

Andreas tells her about the couple. Frau Berger reminds him that the "customer is always right".

Andreas: Well, a couple were here. He was unhappy and she was  
 dissatisfied.  
 Ex: Impossible! They were both impossible!  
 Frau Berger: Well, now, you can't talk about guests like that! It's impolite!  
 Andreas: You're right. Come on, Ex, we're going home!  
 Frau Berger: Oh, I see, your voice has a name?  
 Ex: Obviously!  
 Frau Berger: Okay, then. But you know, the customer is always right. (lit:  
 the customer is king)  
 Ex: I am the king. (play on words)  
 Andreas: No, you are the queen!

At the end of the broadcast, Ex says goodbye like this:

Ex: The listener is queen! (The listener is always right!)

## Lesson 5

### A bus can't be charming!

Ex and Andreas are back home at Andreas' flat. Ex persuades him to play a game with her.

Ex: Andreas, shall we play a game?  
Andreas: Oh, Ex, I'm so tired.  
Ex: But it's quite easy!  
Andreas: Well, okay.

In the first game, Andreas has to guess who is meant by *er* (he).

Ex: Well, guess! He is a doctor.  
Andreas: Who is?  
Ex: He is!  
Andreas: A man!  
Ex: Right!

In the next game, Andreas has to guess who can be *charming*.

Ex: Well, guess! He is charming.  
Andreas: A bus.  
Ex: Wrong! A bus can't be charming.  
Andreas: Okay, okay – a man.  
Ex: Right!

In the third game, Andreas has to guess who can be *chic*.

Ex: Well, guess! She is chic.  
Andreas: A woman.  
Ex: Wrong!  
Andreas: How come? A woman can be chic!  
Ex: Yes, but guess again!  
Andreas: A bottle.  
Ex: Well, really!  
Andreas: How about – a French woman?  
Ex: Right.

In the fourth game, Andreas has to guess what can be *interesting*.

Ex: Well, guess! It is interesting.  
Andreas: A game.  
Ex: Wrong!  
Andreas: A book.  
Ex: Wrong!  
Andreas: Why? A book can be interesting.  
Ex: Yes, but I mean something else.  
Andreas: A couple.  
Ex: Wrong!  
Andreas: Then I don't know the answer!

Ex: A hotel.  
 Andreas: No! A hotel can't be interesting.  
 Ex: Yes it can!  
 Andreas: No! People in the hotel can be interesting.  
 Ex: So can a hotel!  
 Andreas: No! And now it's my turn!

In the last game, Ex has to guess. She doesn't notice that the clues in the game all refer to her.

Andreas: Well, guess! He is impolite.  
 Ex: I don't know.  
 Andreas: He is inquisitive.  
 Ex: I don't know.  
 Andreas: He is invisible.  
 Ex: I don't know.  
 Andreas: She is invisible.  
 Ex: Which do you mean: "he" or "she"?  
 Andreas: You should know. "He" or "she" or "it" is invisible.  
 Ex: I don't know.  
 Andreas: Are you an elf or a witch?  
 Ex: I am me.

## Lesson 6

### Perhaps she needs help?

Hanna would like to know who is in room 15 because she can hear a loud voice coming from there. But Hanna knows that the occupant – a woman – is alone in the room.

Hanna: Hello, Andreas!  
 Andreas: Hello, Hanna. How are you?  
 Hanna: Fine! (quietly) Tell me: Who is in room 15?  
 Andreas: Frau Wimmer. Why?  
 Hanna: She always speaks so loudly – but she's alone. Come here, listen!

Hanna and Andreas listen outside Frau Wimmer's door. Frau Berger, the hotel manageress, comes along. Frau Wimmer is an actress and she is rehearsing a part.

Frau Wimmer: no! : No.  
                   there! : No.  
                   here! : No!  
                   up! : No!  
                   there : No. No. No.  
                   help? : Yes!  
                   help? : Yes!  
                   help? : Yes! (Silence, pause)  
 Hanna: Perhaps she needs help?  
 Andreas: Why don't you ask her?

Hanna: But there's a sign on her door: Please do not disturb!

(Frau Berger comes along)

Frau Berger: Then don't disturb her!

Hanna: But what's wrong?

Frau Berger: Frau Wimmer is an actress.

Hanna: Oh, I see! Then that explains everything! And when can I clean her room?

Andreas returns to the reception desk, where a man is waiting. He has an appointment with Frau Wimmer.

Andreas: Hello. Can I help you?

Man: I have an appointment with Frau Wimmer.

Andreas: Frau Wimmer, Room 15 – I'll call her at once.  
(Andreas dials her room number but no-one answers)

Andreas: I'm sorry. There is no reply.

Man: I don't understand.

Andreas: I can't disturb Frau Wimmer at the moment. Perhaps you'd like to wait?

Man: I don't know. I don't know... Oh, tell Frau Wimmer I'll call her later.

## Lesson 7

### My plane leaves at nine o'clock

A rather nervous guest would like to order a taxi to take him to Cologne Airport the next morning. Andreas asks him what time he should book the taxi for.

Man: Oh – is it permitted to smoke here?

Andreas: Of course you may smoke. Here is an ashtray. What can I do for you?

Man: Please order me a taxi. For tomorrow morning.

Andreas: Certainly. And for what time?

Man: Well, my plane leaves at nine o'clock. How long does it take to get there by taxi?

Andreas: About an hour.

Man: (Works out the time, talking to himself) Aha – an hour. I'd like to be there at half past eight. A one-hour journey, so then let's say half past seven.

(aloud) Please order the taxi for seven o'clock.

Andreas: I'll see to that.

Ex has been listening to this conversation and imitates the man – much to the annoyance of Andreas.

Ex: Is it permitted to sing here?  
 Andreas: No, it's not permitted!  
 Ex: Is it permitted to make a disturbance?  
 Andreas: Ex, I beg you. Be quiet now!

Meanwhile a couple have arrived at the reception desk. They want to be woken at seven o'clock the next morning.

Frau: Good evening.  
 Andreas: Good evening.  
 Frau: Can you wake us tomorrow morning?  
 Andreas: Certainly. And when?  
 Mann: At a quarter past seven.  
 Andreas: I'll see to that. I'll wake you at a quarter past seven.  
 Frau: Thank you.  
 Andreas: Good night.

## Lesson 8

### You shouldn't do that!

Andreas is at home. He is listening to music and having his evening meal when the telephone rings. Ex answers the phone although Andreas has told her not to do so.

Ex: Andreas, the telephone is ringing.  
 Andreas: (speaking with his mouth full) Yes, I can hear that!

(The telephone keeps ringing)

Ex: Shall I answer?  
 Andreas: No! You mustn't do that! I'll get it.  
 Ex: (picks up the receiver) Hello, this is the Schäfer's house.  
 Andreas? He's here. Shall I get him?  
 Andreas: (snatches the receiver from Ex) Andreas Schäfer.

Andreas' mother is on the phone. She tells him that she would like to come and see him at the weekend.

Frau Schäfer: Good evening, son.  
 Andreas: Hello, Mum. How are you?  
 Frau Schäfer: Fine, thanks. Tell me, who was that?  
 Andreas: Oh, a girlfriend.  
 Frau Schäfer: Oh? Well, you must introduce her to us!  
 Andreas: I beg your pardon?  
 Frau Schäfer: Well, I don't mean it like that! Listen, we'd like to come and visit you.

Although Andreas has to work on Saturday, his parents will be arriving in Aachen at one o'clock. By then he will have finished work.

Andreas: Fine! And when?  
 Frau Schäfer: This coming weekend.  
 Andreas: That's a pity! I have to work on Saturday.  
 Frau Schäfer: How long do you have to work?

Andreas: Until one o'clock.  
 Frau Schäfer: Well, that's all right. So, we'll come on Saturday. We'll be there at one o'clock.  
 Andreas: Okay. Till then.

## **Lesson 9**

### **Bananas for me!**

Andreas looks in his fridge to see what he needs to buy and discovers that the fridge is almost empty.

Andreas: (annoyed) Empty! Completely empty!  
 Ex: Andreas, what's wrong? Are you angry?  
 Andreas: Yes! No! The fridge is completely empty again.  
 Ex: Then you'll have to go shopping.  
 Andreas: You don't have to tell me! Now be quiet!

Andreas makes a list of everything he needs, and mutters to himself: Well, I need bread and butter.

Ex: Bread and butter, cheese and sausage.  
 Andreas: Yes, cheese and sausage – and fruit.  
 Ex: Get me bananas! Please!  
 Andreas: I'll see. But come on now! We're going shopping.

Andreas goes to a supermarket and buys cheese and sausage.

Assistant: Good afternoon. What would you like?  
 Andreas: I'd like some sausage.  
 Assistant: How much?  
 Andreas: 150 grammes.  
 Assistant: Anything else?  
 Andreas: Yes, a piece of cheese.  
 Assistant: And which cheese would you like?  
 Andreas: "Mountain" cheese, please.  
 Assistant: Anything else?  
 Andreas: No, that's everything.  
 Ex: (delighted) Olives! They've got olives! Can I try one?  
 Assistant: Would you like some olives as well?  
 Andreas: No, thank you.  
 Assistant: (quietly, to herself) Strange, strange!

## **Lesson 10**

### **You always want to know everything!**

Andreas' parents come to the Hotel Europa to meet their son. There they meet Frau Berger, the hotel manageress.

Andreas: Hello, you're here already!  
 Ex: Who?



Andreas: My parents. (to Ex) And you just be quiet, please.  
Frau Schäfer: Hello, son.

(They embrace one another)

Herr Schäfer: Hello, Andreas.  
Andreas: Hello, Dad. How was the journey?  
Frau Schäfer: Fine, thank you. No problems.  
Andreas: Good! I'm ready. Shall we go?

(Frau Berger appears on the scene)

Frau Berger: Hello.  
Andreas: These are my parents. And this is Frau Berger, my boss.  
Frau Schäfer: Very pleased to meet you, Frau Berger. I hope my son Andreas isn't causing you any trouble.  
Frau Berger: Certainly not! He can do everything. He is a porter, a journalist and a ventriloquist.  
Frau Schäfer: What? You're a ventriloquist?  
Andreas: Shouldn't we be going?

Frau Schäfer discovers a photo of the Berger family in the hotel foyer. She takes this opportunity to talk to Frau Berger about her family.

Frau Schäfer: I don't wish to be indiscreet: But that is your family, isn't it?  
Frau Berger: Yes, that's right. That's my brother and my sister in the foreground. And that is me.  
Frau Schäfer: You can see that at once. And do your brother and sister live in Aachen, too?  
Frau Berger: No. My sister is married and lives in Munich.  
Frau Schäfer: And your brother?  
Frau Berger: He is in Frankfurt.  
Frau Schäfer: And your parents? Are they in Aachen?  
Frau Berger: No. They are both dead.  
Frau Schäfer: I'm very sorry.  
Andreas: You always want to know everything!  
Frau Berger: That's a good thing!

## Lesson 11

### How about going to the theatre?

Andreas is sitting with his parents in a small café in Aachen. They are talking about what they would like to do in the afternoon.

Herr Schäfer: What are we going to do today?  
Frau Schäfer: This afternoon I'd definitely like to go shopping.  
Andreas: Shopping?  
Frau Schäfer: Yes, the end of season sales are on!  
Andreas: That's right! And what about you, Dad?

Herr Schäfer: I'd like to go to the newspaper museum.  
 Frau Schäfer: And of course we also want to go to the cathedral.  
 Ex: And I want to go to the disco!  
 Andreas: Ex, be quiet!  
 Frau Schäfer: Oh, I suppose that was your girlfriend! Where is she then?

Andreas suggests that they all meet at six o'clock to have a meal together and then perhaps go to the theatre.

Andreas: Well, we can also go to the cathedral tomorrow. But the newspaper museum is only open on Saturdays.  
 Frau Schäfer: And the shops are only open today.  
 Andreas: I've got a suggestion. You go shopping, Mum. I'll go to the newspaper museum with Dad. And at six o'clock we'll all go out for a meal.  
 Frau Schäfer: And then? Where will we go then?  
 Andreas: To the theatre, perhaps?  
 Herr Schäfer: Yes! That's a good idea.  
 Frau Schäfer: What else is there to do?  
 Andreas: I've got a newspaper here.

## **Lesson 12**

### **My studies are going okay**

Frau Schäfer goes shopping. Andreas stays in the café with his father. They have a conversation.

Frau Schäfer: Well, till later!  
 Andreas: Bye!  
 Herr Schäfer: Bye! Till six o'clock!  
 (turning to Andreas) Well, how are you?  
 Andreas: I'm fine, thanks. And how are you two?  
 Herr Schäfer: Your mother is very well.  
 Andreas: And you?  
 Herr Schäfer: I'm fine too. But I am having problems.  
 Andreas: Problems?  
 Herr Schäfer: (laughing) Yes. I'm having problems with the computer.  
 Andreas: You've got a computer? I can certainly help you with that!  
 Herr Schäfer: Do you think so?  
 Andreas: Certainly.

Herr Schäfer then goes on to ask Andreas about his studies and his work.

Herr Schäfer: And what about you, Andreas. How are your studies going?  
 Andreas: My studies are going okay.  
 Herr Schäfer: And what are you doing at the moment?  
 Andreas: I'll soon be doing a feature on Aachen.  
 Herr Schäfer: Oh, that's nice! Will you send us the feature?

Andreas: Certainly!  
 Herr Schäfer: And how's your work going?  
 Andreas: Fine. I like the work.  
 Herr Schäfer: And how are you getting on with Frau Berger?  
 Andreas: She is really very nice!  
 Herr Schäfer: Yes, I think she is, too.  
 Andreas: Shall we go to the newspaper museum now?  
 Herr Schäfer: Yes, let's.

## Lesson 13

### Have you got it in black?

Frau Schäfer is in a department store. It is very full because the end of season sales are on. A lot of items of clothing have been reduced in price.

Frau Schäfer: Phew! It's full here!  
 Loudspeaker announcement: Please note our special offers on the ground floor. Blouses - only four marks!

(Noise of shoppers in background)

Man: Where can I pay?  
 1st Woman: Look, how do you like this?  
 Loudspeaker announcement: Please note our special offers on the ground floor! Pullovers - only ten marks!  
 Man: Where is the cash desk?  
 Frau Schäfer: (to herself) No. It's too full for me.

Frau Schäfer goes into the ladies' department, where items are on sale at the normal price. She looks for a skirt, but does not have a clear idea of what she is looking for.

Frau Schäfer: Can you help me? I'm looking for a skirt.  
 Assistant: Yes, of course. And what size?  
 Frau Schäfer: 44.  
 Assistant: And what colour?  
 Frau Schäfer: What have you got?  
 Assistant: Have a look. We've got one here in yellow. That is this autumn's colour.  
 Frau Schäfer: Oh, no. I don't like yellow! Have you got it in black?  
 Assistant: Just a moment. I'm sorry, we've only got it left in size 42.  
 Frau Schäfer: It's certain to be too small.  
 Assistant: Try it on! There's a changing room over there at the back.

Frau Schäfer tries on the skirt, but it is too small for her.

Frau Schäfer: No, it's too small.  
 Assistant: That's a pity!  
 Frau Schäfer: Thank you very much. Goodbye.  
 Assistant: Goodbye.

## Lesson 14

### It's said to be very interesting

Andreas and his parents are thinking of going to see a play called *Groß und klein* (Big and Small) by Botho Strauss. They wonder what the name of the play refers to.

Andreas: At the Municipal Theatre there's a play by Botho Strauss called *Groß und klein* (Big and Small).  
 Herr Schäfer: It's supposed to be very interesting.  
 Frau Schäfer: And what is "Big and Small" supposed to mean?  
 Ex: It means: What are people like? Big or ...  
 Frau Schäfer: (annoyed) What people are like? Big or small?!

Andreas: No! That's not what it means!  
 Frau Schäfer: (still annoyed) No, really, that doesn't interest me.  
 Herr Schäfer: "Big and Small" means: What are people like?  
 Ex: Big or small?  
 Herr Schäfer: What do they think?  
 Ex: A lot or a little?  
 Herr Schäfer: How do they behave?  
 Ex: Well or badly?  
 Frau Schäfer: And that is supposed to be interesting? Well, I find this voice interesting!

Andreas and his parents agree to go to see the *Dreigroschenoper* (*The Threepenny Opera*) by Bertolt (Bert) Brecht.

Andreas: What do you think of this. *The Threepenny Opera* is on at the opera house.  
 Ex: What does "Threepenny Opera" mean?  
 Andreas: Threepence means cheap.  
 Frau Schäfer: Tell me, who are you talking to?  
 Ex: To me!  
 Andreas: Ex, please be quiet!  
 Frau Schäfer: I don't understand you, Andreas. Are you really a ventriloquist?  
 Andreas: No. I'll explain that to you later. Well, shall we go to *The Threepenny Opera*?  
 Herr Schäfer: Yes, let's.  
 Andreas: You probably already know the Mackie Messer (Mack the Knife) song.  
 Ex: (sings the Mack the Knife song)

## Lesson 15

### A man by the name of Mack the Knife

Andreas phones the opera house to order tickets for *The Threepenny Opera*.

- Woman: Good evening.  
Andreas: Good evening. My name's Schäfer. Are there still tickets for *The Threepenny Opera*?  
Woman: For when?  
Andreas: For this evening.  
Woman: Yes, but only for thirty marks.  
Andreas: I'd like three tickets.  
Ex: Four!  
Woman: I beg your pardon? Would you like three or four tickets?  
Andreas: I only need three.  
Woman: What was your name?  
Andreas: Schäfer.  
Woman: You must pick up the tickets by half past seven.  
Andreas: Yes, I'll do so. Goodbye.  
Woman: Goodbye.

Andreas then tells Ex about *The Threepenny Opera*.

- Andreas: Well, *The Threepenny Opera* takes place in London. It is about thieves and beggars. Their leader is a man by the name of Mackie Messer (Mack the Knife). And as his name suggests, Mack the Knife has a knife.  
Ex: Obviously!  
Andreas: The first song is about Mack the Knife's crimes. One man is dead. The man had money. But the money is missing. And now Mack the Knife has the money.  
Ex: The thief.

## Lesson 16

### Somebody heard that

Andreas tells his parents how he met Ex.

- Andreas: You probably won't believe the story! Well, it was like this: I was at home, reading a book – the book about the *Heinzelmannchen* in Cologne. At night they used to do the work for the craftsmen. So I was reading the book and dreaming ... And then I said out loud, "I'd like to have some help like that!" But then I said to myself, "Oh, well, (Andreas sighs) that obviously doesn't exist!"  
Frau Schäfer: And then?  
Herr Schäfer: Sh!  
Andreas: Somebody heard that.  
Frau Schäfer: Who?

Andreas: Ex! And she said:  
Ex: Hello, here I am!

Andreas' parents have different reactions to this. Frau Schäfer is a little confused, Herr Schäfer wants to know whether Ex helps Andreas.

Ex: Hello, here I am!  
Frau Schäfer: Where? Where is she? I can't see her!  
Ex: I'm invisible.  
Frau Schäfer: And we are supposed to believe that?  
Ex: Obviously!  
Herr Schäfer: Well, Andreas, does she help you?  
Andreas: (clears his throat in embarrassment)  
Ex: Yes, a lot!

## Lesson 17

### Where does the name "Aachen" come from?

Andreas is doing an assignment for his course in journalism. He is interviewing people in the street. He wants to find out whether they know where the name *Aachen* comes from and what it means.

Andreas: Excuse me, please. I'd like to ask you something.  
1. Passer by: I'm sorry. I don't come from here.  
Andreas: Excuse me please. I'd like to ask you something.  
2. Passer by: Yes, what?  
Andreas: What do you think the name *Aachen* means?  
2. Passer by: Aachen? What do you mean?  
Andreas: Well, where does the name *Aachen* come from?  
2. Passer by: I don't know. Do you know?

Next Andreas asks a young woman.

Andreas: Hello. I have a question.  
1. Passer by: Yes, what is it?  
Andreas: What does the name *Aachen* mean?  
1. Passer by: No idea. And it doesn't interest me either.

Andreas asks an elderly couple. They know the answer.

Andreas: May I ask you a question? What does the name *Aachen* mean?  
3. Passer by: Aachen? Aachen?  
Andreas: Yes, where does the name *Aachen* come from?  
3. Passer by: Well, in former times the Romans were here.  
Andreas: That's right.  
2. Passer by: And in former times there were springs in Aachen.  
3. Passer by: Exactly! And the (Latin) word for water was *aqua*.  
2. Passer by: So the name *Aachen* comes from *aqua* and means water?  
Andreas: Yes, *aqua* was the first name for *Aachen*.  
3. Passer by: Wait a moment – and later the Germanic tribes were here.

Andreas: And they gave Aachen the name *abba*.  
 2. Passer by: And that also means water?  
 Andreas: Yes.

## Lesson 18

### He told me that

Andreas and his parents go for a walk round Aachen. In the city there are a lot of fountains, for example, the Elise fountain. You can drink the water from this fountain.

Herr Schäfer: Andreas, are you going to show us the town?  
 Ex: Oh yes!  
 Andreas: (playing the role of a guide) Well, as you know: Aachen is a spa town.  
 Ex: Obviously! Aachen means "water".  
 Frau Schäfer: How does she know that?  
 Ex: He – Andreas – told me that.  
 Frau Schäfer: But Aachen isn't on the sea.  
 Andreas: That's right! But Aachen has a lot of fountains!  
 Frau Schäfer: Can you drink the water?  
 Andreas: Normally you can't. This is the Elise fountain that dates back to the year 1827. And you can drink the water.  
 Frau Schäfer: I'd like to try it!  
 Ex: But it tastes horrible!  
 Frau Schäfer: How does she know that?  
 Andreas: I told her.  
 Frau Schäfer: (tastes the water) Ugh – it really tastes horrible!  
 Andreas: But it's very healthy!

Andreas and his parents continue their stroll and Andreas shows them Aachen's famous cathedral. This is where Emperor Charlemagne had his "seat of government".

Andreas: And this is the cathedral!  
 Herr Schäfer: Here (Aachen) was once the residence of Charlemagne, wasn't it?  
 Andreas: Exactly! Charlemagne had his residence here.  
 Ex: Charlemagne?  
 Andreas: He was an emperor.  
 Ex: And why was he in Aachen?  
 Andreas: Aachen has a lot of hot springs. And in former times that was very pleasant.  
 Ex: Will you show me the springs some time?  
 Andreas: Okay, Ex, I promise you I will!  
 Frau Schäfer: And now I'd like to go into the cathedral.  
 Herr Schäfer: Fine – let's do that now.

## Lesson 19

### How do you speak to an emperor?

Andreas is conducting a fictitious interview with Charlemagne (Karl der Große), who was crowned Holy Roman Emperor in Rome in the year 800.

- Ex: You're doing an interview with an emperor?  
Andreas: Yes, but please be quiet!  
Ex: Are you nervous?  
Andreas: Of course! How do you speak to an emperor?  
Voice: Attention! The broadcast is beginning. (We're on the air)  
Andreas: Hello. Our studio guest today is Emperor Charlemagne.  
Welcome to the programme.  
Charlemagne: Hello (young man).  
Andreas: You have just come back from a journey?  
Charlemagne: Yes, I was in Rome.  
Andreas: And now you are emperor ...  
Charlemagne: That is a great honour for me.  
Andreas: The Germans call you "Karl the Great".  
Charlemagne: Oh really? Is that the translation of Carolus Magnus?  
Andreas: Exactly! And the French call you "Charlemagne".  
Ex: And the Italians call you "Carlo Magno".  
Charlemagne: I beg your pardon?

Andreas tells Charlemagne that he is still very famous in Aachen today. A fountain (the Karlsbrunnen) and a prize (the Charlemagne Prize) are both named after him.

- Andreas: How do you like Aachen?  
Charlemagne: I like Aachen very much – especially the springs.  
The warm water does me good. And how long have you been in Aachen?  
Andreas: For one year.  
Charlemagne: And what is Aachen like – today?  
Andreas: You are very famous – even today.  
Charlemagne: Oh really?  
Andreas: In Aachen there is the Karlsbrunnen.  
Charlemagne: That is an honour for me.  
Andreas: There is the Charlemagne Prize ...  
Charlemagne: The Charlemagne Prize?  
Andreas: Yes, for European unity.  
Charlemagne: Oh, Europe! (he begins to enthuse) I had good contacts throughout the whole world, Constantinople ...

## Lesson 20

### I've booked a room

Frau Berger asks Andreas how he spent the weekend with his parents. He tells her that they went to see *The Threepenny Opera*.



Andreas: Good morning, Frau Berger.  
 Frau Berger: Good morning, Herr Schäfer. Well, did you have a nice time with your parents?  
 Andreas: Yes, thanks. It was very nice.  
 Frau Berger: What did you do?  
 Andreas: I showed my parents round Aachen.  
 Frau Berger: And did they like it?  
 Andreas: I think so. We also went to the theatre. We saw *The Threepenny Opera*.  
 Ex: I didn't!  
 Frau Berger: Oh, there it is again, your second voice! Was it there too?  
 Ex: No, unfortunately not!

A guest has booked a room. But he has got the date wrong and reserved the room for the following day.

Andreas: Hello.  
 Herr Müller: Hello. I have reserved a room.  
 Andreas: What is your name, please?  
 Herr Müller: Müller, Dr. Martin Müller.  
 Andreas: Oh yes, I spoke to your secretary on the telephone. Just a moment, please. (Andreas leafs through the hotel register) But you have reserved the room for tomorrow. And unfortunately the hotel is full today.  
 Herr Müller: I beg your pardon? That's impossible! There must be a mistake!  
 Andreas: I'm very sorry, Dr. Müller. I have noted your reservation for the fourteenth.  
 Herr Müller: For the fourteenth?  
 Andreas: Yes. And today is the thirteenth.  
 Herr Müller: Yes, I'm aware of that. (sighs) The thirteenth – an unlucky day! And what will I do now?  
 Andreas: Please wait a moment. I'll have a word with my boss.  
 Herr Müller: Thank you. (to himself) How stupid!

## Lesson 21

### How do I get to the post office?

Herr Müller would like to go to the Eurogress, the congress center in Aachen. But he doesn't express himself clearly enough.

Andreas: Good morning, Dr. Müller.  
 Herr Müller: Good morning.  
 Andreas: Did you sleep well?  
 Herr Müller: Yes, thank you. Very well. Tell me, how do I get to the centre?  
 Andreas: No doubt you want to see the town hall and the cathedral?  
 Herr Müller: No. I'm sorry. I have to go to the congress centre.  
 Andreas: Oh, you mean the Eurogress?  
 Herr Müller: Yes, exactly! I have to go to the Eurogress.

Andreas: It's not far. You can go there by bus.  
Herr Müller: Oh no – order me a taxi, please.  
Andreas: Certainly.

Another guest comes to the reception. She asks Andreas how to get to the Theaterplatz (Theatre Square).

Woman: Excuse me, I'd like to go to the Theaterplatz. How do I get there?  
Andreas: It's not far. You can go on foot.  
Woman: How pleasant!  
Andreas: You go right, then right again, then straight on. That takes you direct to the Theaterplatz.  
Woman: Thank you very much.

Another guest – a young man – is looking for a post office.

Man: How do I get to the post office? Is there one nearby?  
Andreas: Yes. Do you know the way to the station?  
Man: Yes.  
Andreas: Then just go to the station. There's a post office there.  
Man: Thank you very much.

And invisible Ex would like to have her invisible hair done at the hairdresser's.

Ex: Is there a hairdresser's nearby?  
Andreas: Where do you want to go to?  
Ex: To the hairdresser!  
Andreas: (groans)

## **Lesson 22**

### **At seven o'clock on Wednesday morning**

A guest complains that the shower in her room is broken.

Woman: Good morning. I'd like to speak to the manager.  
Andreas: Good morning. Just a moment, please. (Andreas gets up to look for Woman Berger) Woman Berger? Hanna, is Woman Berger with you?  
Hanna: No. She's got toothache. She's at the dentist's.  
Andreas: (returns to the reception desk) I'm sorry. The manageress is not here. She's at the dentist's. Perhaps I can help you?  
Woman: I hope so. The shower in my room is broken.  
Andreas: I'm sorry. We didn't notice that.  
Woman: It dripped all night long. And this morning everything was wet.  
Andreas: I'll inform the manageress. We'll have it fixed, of course.  
Woman: I hope so. Goodbye.  
Andreas: Goodbye.

When Frau Berger returns from the dentist, she makes an appointment for a plumbing firm to repair the shower.

Man: Firma Moll. (name of the company)  
Frau Berger: Hello, this is Frau Berger of the Hotel Europa. One of our showers is broken. When can someone come to fix it?  
Man: Just a moment;  
Today is Monday. Let's say, on Friday at nine o'clock?  
Frau Berger: Oh no! That's much too late. Can't you come sooner? It's very urgent.  
Man: On Wednesday morning, at seven o'clock.  
Frau Berger: Can't you come today or tomorrow?  
Man: Okay. Let's say tomorrow. But not until the evening.  
Frau Berger: That's very good of you! Until tomorrow, then.

### **Lesson 23** **What happened?**

At long last Andreas calls Dr. Thürmann, who invited him some time ago to visit him in Berlin. Andreas discovers that Dr. Thürmann is coming to Aachen.

Dr. Thürmann: Thürmann.  
Andreas: Good evening, Dr. Thürmann. Andreas Schäfer speaking.  
From the Hotel Europa.  
Dr. Thürmann: Oh yes. Good evening, Herr Schäfer.  
Andreas: I'm sorry I haven't been in touch for a long time.  
Dr. Thürmann: That's okay. It doesn't matter.  
Andreas: You invited me to come to Berlin.  
Dr. Thürmann: Yes, I did invite you, that's right. But now I'm coming to Aachen.  
Andreas: How nice! There's always a room free for you at the Hotel Europa.  
Dr. Thürmann: I know. But I have to go to the clinic.  
Andreas: Oh, I'm very sorry about that.

Dr. Thürmann tells Andreas that he was in a car accident. But he wasn't seriously injured.

Dr. Thürmann: I had an accident.  
Andreas: In your car?  
Dr. Thürmann: Yes.  
Andreas: Were you hurt?  
Dr. Thürmann: No, it wasn't too serious.  
Ex: What happened?  
Dr. Thürmann: I beg your pardon? Was that your voice?  
Andreas: (embarrassed) No. What happened then?  
Dr. Thürmann: I had been to visit a friend. I was driving home – and then ...  
Well, I can tell you about it in Aachen.

Andreas: I'll look forward to that.  
 Dr. Thürmann: Do come and visit me. I'll be in the rehabilitation clinic.  
 Andreas: I'll certainly visit you.  
 Ex: So will I!  
 Andreas: Goodbye.  
 Dr. Thürmann: I'll see you soon – in Aachen.

## Lesson 24

### I forgot about it

Andreas visits Dr. Thürmann in a clinic in Aachen. Dr. Thürmann tells him about his accident.

(Andreas goes to Dr. Thürmann's room and knocks on the door)

Dr. Thürmann: Come in!  
 Andreas: Hello, Dr. Thürmann.  
 Dr. Thürmann: Hello, Herr Schäfer.  
 Andreas: How are you?  
 Dr. Thürmann: Fine! I'm very well. But it's a bit boring here.  
 Andreas: How did your accident happen?  
 Dr. Thürmann: Haven't I told you?  
 Andreas: Well, you said you had been to visit a friend and you were driving home. But what happened then?  
 Dr. Thürmann: Well, I stopped at a traffic light – it was red, of course.  
 Andreas: And then?  
 Dr. Thürmann: The car behind me was going too fast. The driver didn't brake in time – and he crashed into me.  
 Andreas: And what about you? Were you hurt?  
 Dr. Thürmann: Not badly. But now I have very frequent headaches. (pauses)  
 Well, that was my story.

Andreas asks Dr. Thürmann about the treatment he is receiving at the clinic. As Ex interrupts the conversation, Dr. Thürmann's attention is drawn to her.

Dr. Thürmann: And how about you? How are you?  
 Andreas: Fine, thank you. But I haven't had much time – what with my work, my studies, and then my parents came to visit me and ...  
 Dr. Thürmann: And that's why you didn't call me?  
 Andreas: Hm, no. I forgot to do so. I'm very sorry.  
 Dr. Thürmann: You know, you have disappointed me a bit. Well, it's not so bad.  
 Andreas: How are they treating your headaches here?  
 Dr. Thürmann: I have to have a lot of massage, and then there are the springs. The warmth does me good.  
 Ex: That's what Charlemagne said, too.  
 Dr. Thürmann: Charlemagne? I'm a bit hard of hearing, but that wasn't your voice, was it, Herr Schäfer?  
 Andreas: No, that wasn't my voice.

Ex: That was me!  
Dr. Thürmann: I think you have a story to tell me, too.

## Lesson 25

### Can you give me more handtowels?

Andreas is at the reception desk. A guest asks him to order her a taxi.

Woman: Can you order a taxi for me?  
Andreas: Certainly. For when?  
Woman: At once, please.  
Andreas: I'll attend to that. I'll order it at once.

Another guest tells Frau Berger there are no hand towels in his room and asks her to have them brought up to him.

Man: Excuse me. Could you give me some hand towels? There aren't any in my bathroom.  
Frau Berger: I'm sorry about that. We've been very busy today. The chambermaid will bring them up to your room at once. Hanna? Hanna!  
Hanna: Yes?  
Frau Berger: Will you take some hand towels up to Herr Braun?  
Hanna: Oh, I forgot them. I'll take them up at once.

Now Andreas and Frau Berger have some time to talk about Dr. Thürmann.

Frau Berger: By the way, I spoke to Dr. Thürmann on the phone.  
Andreas: Oh yes? Well, it's very boring for him in the clinic.  
Frau Berger: Yes, that's what he said to me, too. And that's why I've invited him out on Sunday.  
Andreas: Oh yes?  
Frau Berger: We're going to take a boat trip. Wouldn't you like to come along?  
Ex: A boat trip?  
Frau Berger: Exactly! Your second voice can come along, too.  
Ex: Obviously! Andreas, please (let me come).

## Lesson 26

### The trip to the Loreley is beautiful

Andreas, Frau Berger, Dr. Thürmann and Ex have met up at a boarding stage on the Rhine. They want to go for a boat trip on the Rhine, a very large river, which also flows through Cologne.

Andreas: There are a lot of people waiting over there.  
Dr. Thürmann: No wonder, with weather like this!

Andreas: I hope we'll still get tickets.  
 Frau Berger: But of course we will. (sighs) Oh, the trip to the Loreley is absolutely beautiful.  
 Ex: The Loreley?? I knew her. (dreamily) She was beautiful.  
 Dr. Thürmann: (to himself) There was that voice again ... (to Andreas) That wasn't your voice, was it, Herr Schäfer?  
 Frau Berger: Oh, no. That was his second voice.  
 Dr. Thürmann: Where does this voice come from?  
 Frau Berger: (ironically) Yes, that is Herr Schäfer's secret. (as if turning to Ex) Well, you're so secretive – do you know the ballad of the Loreley, too?  
 Ex: No.  
 Frau Berger: Then listen carefully!

(Frau Berger sings the ballad of the Loreley)

The ship is now passing the Loreley Rock, and the captain tells the passengers the legend of the Loreley.

Mann: And now on the right you can see the Loreley. Look carefully at the rock! That's where the Loreley (the nymph) used to sit. She was incredibly beautiful. Lots of boatmen saw her – once and never again! Look carefully at the rock! Perhaps you'll see her.

And then Andreas discovers that in former times the *Heinzelmannchen* are supposed to have lived in the cave in the Loreley Rock. He wants to find out about this from Ex – but in vain.

Mann: In former times there was a cave in the rock. That's where the *Heinzelmannchen* used to live, so they say.  
 Andreas: Ex, did you know that?  
 Ex: (only clears her throat)  
 Andreas: Ex, I asked you something.  
 (Ex does not reply)  
 Andreas: Where you once there?  
 Is that where you come from? Ex, do you know the *Heinzelmannchen*?  
 (Ex does not reply) Ex, where are you? Ex, I can't hear you!  
 Ex!!  
 Frau Berger: What is wrong?  
 Andreas: I think Ex is gone.